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## RECENT LEGAL LITERATURE

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THE ACT TO REGULATE COMMERCE AND ACTS SUPPLEMENTARY THERETO. By Charles S. Hamlin, of the Boston Bar. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1907, pp. 480.

This is an index-digest of the Interstate Commerce Act, so-called, as amended in 1906, together with the Carriers' Liability Act, the Safety Appliance Acts, the Act Requiring Reports of Accidents, the Arbitration Act and the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, and also some of the less important acts touching interstate commerce. The complete text of each of these acts is given, and each is indexed separately. The index consists of an alphabetical list of all the important words and phrases in each of these acts. Following each word and phrase so indexed is a brief digest of the provisions of all the acts employing such word or phrase, with a reference to the section, line and page of the text where the word or phrase is found. One is enabled by means of this book to readily determine exactly how and in what connection any given matter is covered by any of these interstate commerce acts. This is the entire purpose of the book. It cites no cases whatever. Any lawyer who has to deal with questions touching interstate commerce, and few lawyers do not, will find this book exceedingly convenient, and it will practically insure him against overlooking any provision of any of the interstate commerce acts which bears upon his case.

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MARKETABLE TITLE TO REAL ESTATE. By Chapman W. Maupin, of the Washington, D. C., Bar. New York, N. Y.: Baker, Voorhis & Company, 1907, pp. lxxvi, 910.

This is the second edition of a work that was first given to the profession in 1896, and is superior to the first edition only by reason of the fact that the author has collected in the notes and by way of additions to the text considerable new material upon the topics treated. He says in the preface that "in all something more than seven hundred new decisions appear in the present edition, representing the application of the law governing the rights of purchasers of defective titles to real property by the courts of nearly every state in the Union." While the book is generally correct in its statement of the law of the different subjects treated, its plan cannot be commended. Indeed, it is rather difficult to understand the author's reason for including some of the chapters that we find in the book, in a work upon Marketable Title to Real Estate, as that term is usually understood by the profession. The ordinary lawyer, I judge, would hardly think of consulting a treatise bearing that title with the expectation of finding therein what he will find here, chapters upon *action for breach of contract*; *abstract of title*; *measure of damages for inability to convey a good title*; *action against the vendor for deceit*; *fraud and mistake* and other subjects that, like those named, are only distantly and incidentally related to the general subject. Chapter 31, upon *doubtful titles*, is appropriately included, and so, perhaps, are six or eight other chapters, but a large part of the work, while useful, is out of place in a treatise that purports to be upon *marketable title*. It is suggested